

## State of Utah DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

MICHAEL R. STYLER **Executive Director** 

JOHN R. BAZA Division Director

## **Inspection Report** Minerals Regulatory Program

December 17, 2013

	CRAZ
Reviewed:	PMZ

Mine Name: Lion Heart	Permit Num	ber: S/003/0	033
Operator Name: Star Stone Quarries, Inc.	Inspection Date: June 5, 2013		
Inspector(s): Lynn Kunzler, Steve Schneider, DOGM	Time: 9:00	am	
Other Participants: None	Mine Status:	Reclaimed	
Elements of Inspection	Evaluated	Comment	Enforcement
<ol> <li>Permits, Revisions, Transfer, Bonds</li> <li>Public Safety (shafts, adits, trash, signs, highwalls)</li> <li>Protection of Drainages / Erosion Control</li> <li>Deleterious Material</li> <li>Roads (maintenance, surfacing, dust control, safety)</li> <li>Concurrent Reclamation</li> <li>Backfilling/Grading (trenches, pits, roads, highwalls, shafts,</li> <li>Soils</li> <li>Revegetation</li> <li>Other</li> </ol>			

**Purpose of Inspection:** 

Routine Inspection Anticipation of Bond Release Request due to this being third growing season.

**Inspection Summary:** 

Permit fees are not required for sites completely reclaimed while waiting for revegetation to be successful.

This site was completely reclaimed in 2010. The pit was backfilled, the highwall has been eliminated, and the access road going to the pit was regraded and seeded as well. The only access to the quarry area is by foot. There was no evidence of wheeled vehicles accessing the site. Three years after reclamation work was completed, the site is stable with no signs of erosion on the site or settling along the highwall or road cut. Vegetation has been established with an average ground cover of 48%, which is more than the 70% standard of the surrounding area (54% ground cover in surrounding areas). A diverse community of forbs, shrubs and grasses is well established, common species include thickspike wheatgrass, crested wheatgrass, forage Kochia, sweet vetch, and sagebrush. The post-mining land-use of the area is grazing and wildlife habitat. This is considered to have been achieved due to evidence (tracks and scat) of grazing animals and wildlife.

Photos were taken to document site conditions

## Conclusions and Recommendations:

This site has been successfully reclaimed. The operator needs to submit form MR-Site, which is available on the Division's web site to initiate final bond release. Since this site is on BLM administered lands, the Division will need to have concurrence from the BLM to release the surety.

Inspector's Signature

cc: Lon Thomas, Operator

Larry Garahana, BLM (lgarahan@blm.gov)

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